

# North Carolina Department of Transportation

## NEPA/SEPA Consultation Form

STIP Project No.	<b>B-5655</b>
WBS Element	<b>45610.1.1</b>
Federal Aid Project No.	<b>N/A</b>

A. Project Description, Location, and Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to replace Bridge No. 11 on NC 111/NC 122 over Town Creek in Edgecombe County that was originally built in 1957. The bridge is currently 195 feet in length and has a deck width of 33 feet. The project proposes to construct a new 3 span bridge that is 215 feet in length with two 12-foot travel lanes and 4-foot shoulders on each side. The proposed approach roadway will extend approximately 360 feet to the north of the new bridge and approximately 550 feet to the south of the new bridge. The approaches will include two 12-foot travel lanes and 8-foot shoulders with 2-foot paved (11-foot with guardrail) on each side. The project will also improve the skewed NC 122 and NC 111 intersection located adjacent to the bridge. The existing right-of-way is 60 feet wide and the width of the proposed right-of-way varies, with a maximum of 135 feet. A Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) will be needed to construct the project.

Due to moderate traffic volumes caused by different transportation users for this major collector, traffic will be detoured off-site during the construction period (see Vicinity Map). There are no residential or business accesses in the immediate project area. Local access to existing properties in the immediate vicinity of the bridge replacement can be maintained during construction.

B. Consultation Phase: (Check one)

- ☐ Right-of-Way
- ☒ Construction
- ☐ Other: Identify the trigger – (e.g., design change, change in impacts)

C. NEPA/SEPA Class of Action Initially Approved as: (Check one)

- ☒ FHWA Class II Type I(A) CE

9/5/2019

#### D. Changes in Proposed Action & Environmental Consequences:

##### Water Resources

The water resource classifications for the streams identified in the Categorical Exclusion remain accurate.

##### Protected Species

The list of protected species has changed for this project. The dwarf wedgemussel and yellow lance have been added to Edgecombe County. The biological conclusion for these species is “No Effect”. The Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon were listed in the NRTR as having biological conclusions of “May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect”. Later communications with the National Marine Fisheries Service determined that this project will have “No Effect” on these species. The red-cockaded woodpecker was determined to be a “No Effect” for the project. A survey for the species conducted in 2016 indicated that no nesting age trees existed within one half mile of the project. Thus, no further surveys are required.

The USFWS has listed the Carolina madtom, Neuse River waterdog, Atlantic pigtoe and green floater as At-Risk Species (ARS) for Edgecombe County. These species may receive federal protection during the construction of the project. Surveys for these species have been conducted. This project will have No Effect on Atlantic pigtoe and green floater. The biological conclusions for the Carolina madtom and Neuse River waterdog are “May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect”. If these species receive their federal protective status during construction of the project, coordination will be required with the USFWS to satisfy Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has revised the previous Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT for the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. Although this programmatic covers Divisions 1-8, NLEBs are currently only known in 19 counties, but may potentially occur in 11 additional counties within Divisions 1-8. NCDOT, FHWA, and USACE have agreed to two conservation measures which will avoid/minimize mortality of NLEBs. These conservation measures only apply to the 30-current known/potential counties shown on Figure 2 of the PBO, which does not include Edgecombe County where B-5655 is located. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect**. The PBO provides incidental take coverage for NLEB and will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for ten years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Edgecombe County, where B-5655 is located. This level of incidental take is authorized from the effective date of a final listing determination through December 31, 2030.

##### Historic Architecture and Archaeology

NCDOT has reviewed the Section 106 effects findings for historic properties within the project's area of potential effects (APE), that were made as part of the NEPA analysis. NCDOT has confirmed that there is no new information that would alter the original Section 106 findings and, therefore, they remain valid.

E. Conclusion:

The above NEPA/SEPA documentation has been reevaluated (as required by either 23 CFR 771 or by NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1). It has been determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted in Section D. It has been determined that anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts were accurately described in the above referenced document(s) unless noted otherwise herein. Therefore, the original Administration Action remains valid.

F. Coordination

NCDOT personnel have discussed the current project parameters with qualified NCDOT representatives and FHWA (where applicable). The NCDOT Project Manager, Jacquelyn Bowles, PE, hereby verifies the involvement of the following staff and the incorporation of their technical input:

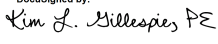
Design Engineer:	Bryan Hough, PE	12/7/2020
Environmental Specialist:	Jason Dilday	12/4/2020
FHWA (if applicable):	Name	Date
Other:	Brian Radakovic, PE	12/2/2020

G. Consultation Approval for NCDOT Project B-5655

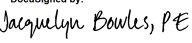
**Prepared By:**

12/9/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim L. Gillespie, PE, Project Manager  
NCDOT, Project Management Unit

**Prepared For:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacquelyn Bowles, PE  
NCDOT – Structures Management Unit

**Reviewed By:**

12/10/2020

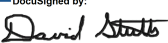
Date

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Colin Mellor, Eastern Region Team Lead  
NCDOT – Environmental Policy Unit

- ☒ **Approved** In adherence with 23 CFR 771 (NEPA) or NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1 (SEPA), NCDOT approves this Consultation.
- or
- ☐ **Certified** NCDOT staff certifies if FHWA signature was previously required or where changes have resulted in FHWA signature being required.

12/10/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Stutts, PE, PEF Project Engineer, Structures Management Unit  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

FHWA Approved: FHWA signature required for Type I(B) CE, Type II(B) CE, Type III CE, FONSI or ROD.

Date

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration

#### H. Project Commitments (as of December 4, 2020)

### **PROJECT COMMITMENTS**

T.I.P Project No. B-5655  
Replacement of Bridge No. 11 on NC 111/NC 122 over Town Creek  
Edgecombe County  
WBS Element 45610.1.1

### **COMMITMENTS FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN**

*Current status to the project commitments are printed in italics.*

#### **NCDOT Division 4**

A detour will increase ride times for school buses and emergency services. In order to minimize disruptions to these services, NCDOT will notify Edgecombe County Emergency Services (252)641-7835 and Edgecombe County Schools (252)641-2660 at least one month prior to construction.

#### **NCDOT Division 4**

Streamside riparian zones within the study area are protected under provisions of the Tar-Pamlico River Buffer Rules administered by NCDWR. Potential impacts to protected stream buffers will be determined once a final alignment and design have been determined.

#### **NCDOT Division 4**

An in-water work moratorium is in effect from February 15 to June 30 to avoid potential impacts to anadromous fish habitat.

#### **NCDOT Hydraulics Unit - FEMA**

The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine status of project with regard to applicability of NCDOT'S Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

*Coordination resulted in approval on September 19, 2019 for the FEMA NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) under NCDOT's MOA with the FMP. This commitment has been completed.*

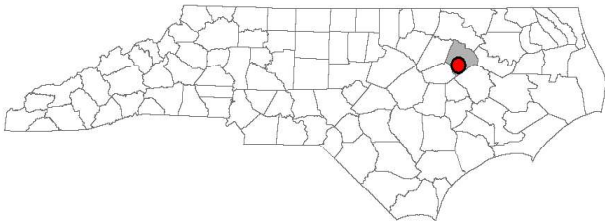
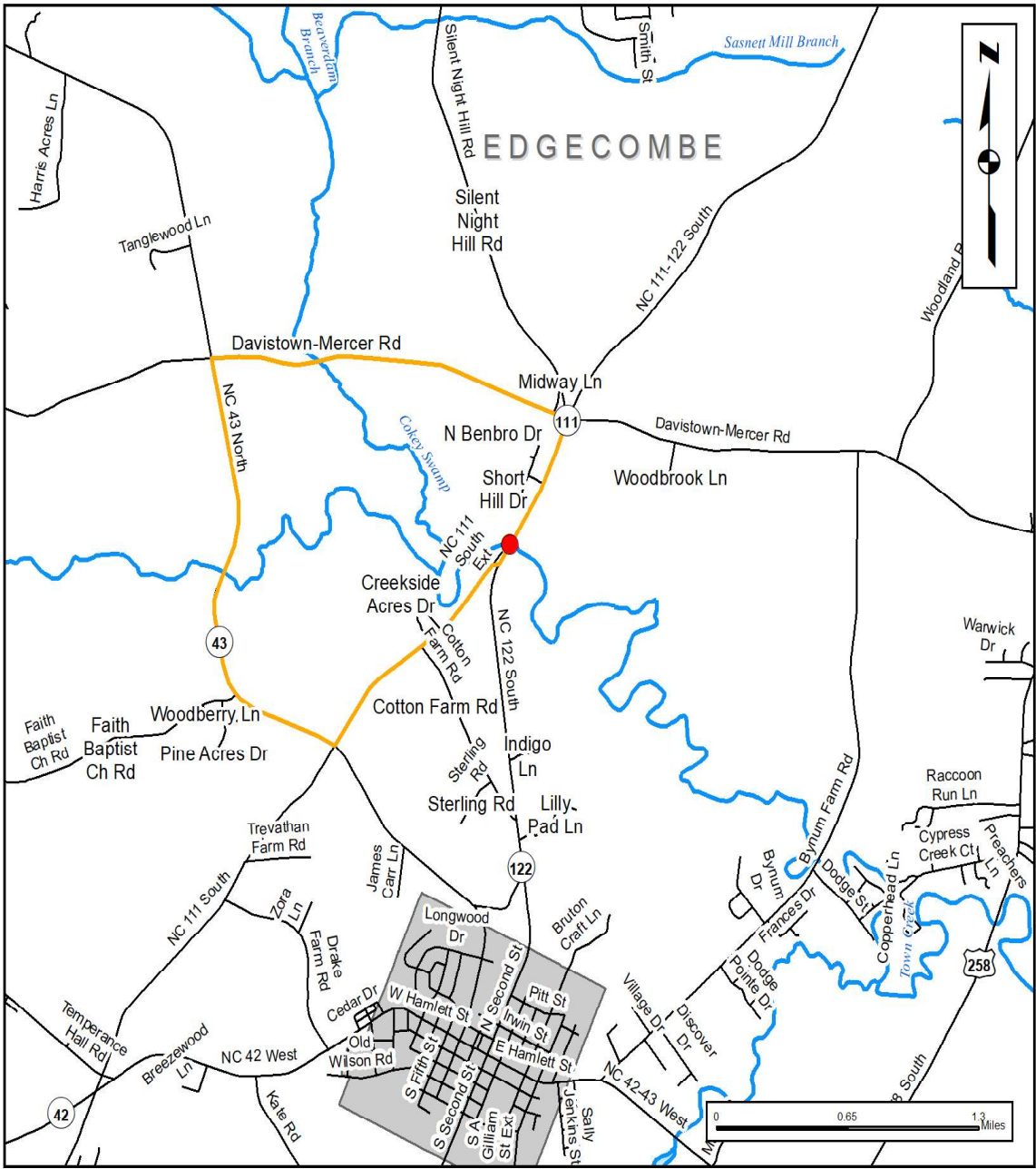
#### **NCDOT Division 4 Construction – FEMA Floodplains and Floodways**



This project involves construction activities on or adjacent to FEMA-regulated stream(s). Therefore, the Division shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulics Unit upon completion of project construction, certifying that the drainage structure(s) and roadway embankment that are located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

### **COMMITMENTS FROM PERMITTING**

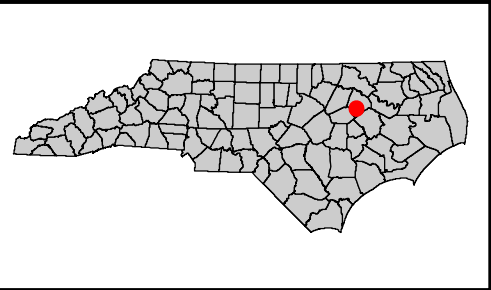
No new special commitments were developed during permitting.


Figure 1: Vicinity Map



 <b>Detour Route</b>	
	NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT
	<b>EDGECOMBE COUNTY REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 11 ON NC 111 &amp; NC 122 OVER TOWN CREEK</b>
	<b>VICINITY MAP</b>
	<b>Figure 1</b>





 <p>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT</p>	<p><b>STUDY AREA MAP</b> <b>Replace Bridge No. 11 on NC 111 &amp; 122</b> <b>over Town Creek in Edgecombe County</b> TIP Project B-5655</p>	<p>0 200 Feet</p>	<table border="1"><tr><td>Div: 4</td><td>TIP# B-5655</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Date: DECEMBER 2015</td></tr></table>	Div: 4	TIP# B-5655	Date: DECEMBER 2015		<p><b>Figure</b> <b>2</b></p>
Div: 4	TIP# B-5655							
Date: DECEMBER 2015								